CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

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LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) A method of picking products in a pick-to-light system, said method comprising:

providing products in a first row of picking bays, each of the picking bays having an induct side and a discharge side and defining a picking location;

providing products in a second row of picking bays spaced from and parallel to the first row of picking bays, each of the picking bays of the second row having an induct side and a discharge side defining a picking location;

forming an aisle between the picking locations of the first row and the picking locations of the second row;

providing access across the aisle to an operator each of said picking bays in said first and second rows, wherein the operator-at least two operators may move between the discharge sides of the first and second rows of picking bays;

aligning a first group of totes with the discharge side of an upstream picking bay in the first row;

aligning a second group of totes with the discharge side of an upstream picking bay in the second row;

indicating a product or products in the upstream picking bay of the first row to be picked by the operator one of said at least two operators for a tote in the first group of totes;

indicating a product or products in the upstream picking bay of the second row to be picked by the operator one of said at least two operators for a tote in the second group of totes; and

wherein said indicating further comprises providing lights associated with the products and actuating a light to indicate when a product is to be picked;

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wherein said indicating further comprises marking each tote with an identifier and displaying said identifier near the product or products to be picked and placed in the identified tote; and

indexing a respective group of totes of said first and second groups of totes to a downstream picking bay in its respective row when the indicated product or products have been picked and placed by the operator one of said at least two operators in a direction parallel to the first and second rows of picking bays wherein the operator at least two operators may continue to pick at another other picking bays in said first and second rows.

- 13. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 12, further comprising indicating a product or products in the downstream picking bay to be picked by the operator for the respective group of totes after the respective group of totes is indexed to the downstream picking bay; and indicating a product to be picked by an operator at the upstream picking bay of the respective row for a third group of totes.
- 14. (original) The method according to Claim 13, further comprising indexing the respective group of totes and the third group of totes wherein said respective group of totes aligns with a discharge side of a second downstream picking bay of the respective row and the third group of totes aligns with the discharge side of the first downstream picking bay of the respective row when the picking is complete for both the respective group of totes and the third group of totes.
- 15. (original) The method according to Claim 12, wherein said aligning the first and second groups of totes comprises supporting said groups of totes on first and second conveyors, respectively, adjacent the discharge sides of said picking bays of said first and second rows of picking bays, respectively, and said indexing includes automatically driving a respective conveyor of said conveyors which supports the respective group of totes to thereby index the respective group of totes.

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16. (original) The method according to Claim 12, wherein said providing products comprises supporting products on flow racks, said products flowing from said induct sides to said discharge sides.

17. (cancelled)

- 18. (currently amended) The method according to Claim [[17]]12, wherein said indicating comprises providing a light at each of said picking locations for each type of product and actuating a respective light of said lights when a product associated with said respective light is to be picked.
- 19. (original) The method according to Claim 12, wherein said providing a first group of totes comprises providing a first group of three totes.
- 20. (original) The method according to Claim 14, wherein said indexing further comprises providing a control system and controlling said indicating with the control system.
- 21. (original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein said indexing comprises driving the conveyors with the control system.
- 22. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 21, further comprising detecting when receiving confirmation that an indicated product has been picked for a given tote with the control system.
- 23. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 22, wherein said detecting receiving confirmation includes [[a]] providing an actuator and detecting when actuating said actuator has been actuated to detect when confirm that an indicated product has been picked for a given tote.

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24. (currently amended) A pick-to-light system comprising:

means for supporting products in first and second parallel, spaced apart_rows and for grouping the products in a plurality of picking locations in each of the rows and for generally aligning the picking locations along an axis, wherein said first and second rows are spaced from each other to create an aisle, wherein said aisle is adapted to providing access to said plurality of picking locations in each of the rows;

means for aligning a first group of totes adjacent a first picking location in said first row;

means for aligning a second group of totes adjacent a first picking location in said second row:

means for identifying each tote within said groups of totes;

means for indicating which products are to be picked for and placed in a given tote of the groups of totes at said first picking locations;

means for indexing said second group of totes containing picked products from said first picking location in said second row in a direction parallel to said first and second rows and said axis, said second row including a second conveyor;

means for indexing said first group of totes containing picked products from said first picking location in said first row in a direction parallel to said first and second rows, said first row including a first conveyor; and

a control system for actuating a respective means of said means for indexing when the products for a respective first picking location are picked;

wherein said means for indicating comprises an identifier marked on each tote, wherein said control system includes a display near the product or products to be picked and placed in the identified tote, said display displaying the identifier of the tote into which the product or products are to be placed; and

wherein said means for indicating further comprises lights, said control system selectively actuating said lights.

25. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 24, wherein said means for supporting comprises a plurality of racks.

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- 26. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 25, wherein said racks comprise flow racks, with each rack having an induct side and discharge side, said means for aligning being adjacent said discharge sides of said flow racks.
- 27. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 24, wherein said means for aligning said first group of said totes and said means for aligning said second group of totes comprise first and second conveyors, respectively.
- 28. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 24, wherein said means for indexing comprises selectively driven conveyors.
- 29. (cancelled)
- 30. (currently amended) A pick-to-light system comprising:
- a plurality of racks supporting groups of products in first and second parallel rows of adjacent picking locations, with each row having a plurality of said picking locations; a plurality of totes;
- a first conveyor for supporting a first group of said totes adjacent a first picking location of said first row;
- a second conveyor for supporting a second group of said totes adjacent a first picking location of said second row, wherein said first and second conveyors are parallel and spaced apart to create an aisle between said conveyors to provide access to each of said picking locations, wherein said conveyors are adapted to index totes containing picked products; and
- a control system for identifying selected products to be picked for a given tote and detecting receiving confirmation when the selected products are picked for the given tote, wherein each tote is marked with an identifier, wherein said control system includes a display near the product or products to be picked and placed in the identified tote, said display displaying the identifier of the tote into which the product or products are to be placed; and

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said control system actuating said first conveyor to index said first groups of totes to another picking location in said first row in a direction parallel to said first and second rows when the selected products of the first picking location in said first row have been picked and placed in each given tote of said first groups of totes and actuating said second conveyor to index said second groups of totes to another picking location in said second row in a direction parallel to said first and second rows when the selected products of the first picking location in the second row have been picked and placed in each of the given totes of said second group of totes.

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- 31. (previously presented) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 30, wherein said racks comprise flow racks, with each rack having an induct side and a discharge side, said discharge sides comprising said picking locations.
- 32. (previously presented) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 30, wherein said control system includes indicators, an indicator provided at each of said picking locations, and said indicators identifying the selected products.
- 33. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 32, wherein said indicators include lights for identifying the selected products.
- 34. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 33, wherein said indicators include displays for identifying the given tote.
- 35. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 34, wherein each of said totes includes an identifier, said displays for displaying said identifiers.
- 36. (currently amended) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 32, wherein each of said totes includes an indicator associate associated therewith for identifying the given tote.

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- 37. (previously presented) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 35, wherein said indicators are mounted at said picking locations.
- 38. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 36, wherein said indicators are provided at said conveyors.
- 39. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 32, wherein said indicators display a mode of operation for said pick-to-light system.
- 40. (original) The pick-to-light system according to Claim 30, further comprising operator actuated devices for indicating when a selected product is picked for a given tote, said control system detecting when said operator actuated devices are actuated to determine when the selected product is picked for the given tote.
- 41. (currently amended) A method of picking products in a pick-to-light system, said method comprising:

providing products in a first row of picking bays, each of the picking bays having an induct side and a discharge side and providing a picking location;

providing products in a second row of picking bays spaced from and parallel to the first row of picking bays, each of the picking bays of the second row having an induct side and a discharge side and providing a picking location;

forming an aisle between the picking locations and discharge sides of the first and second rows of picking bays, the aisle extending in a direction parallel to the first and second rows of picking bays;

providing access across the aisle to an operator at least two operators wherein the operator at least two operators may move between the picking locations and discharge sides of the first and second rows of picking bays, wherein each of the picking locations is accessible to each of the at least two operators;

aligning a first tote with the discharge side of a first picking bay in the first row;

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aligning a second tote with the discharge side of a first picking bay in the second row, wherein said first and second rows include conveyors adapted to index said first and second totes containing picked products, said conveyors being positioned on opposite sides of said aisle:

indicating a product or products in the first picking bay of the first row to be picked by one of the operator at least two operators for the first tote;

indicating a product or products in the first picking bay of the second row to be picked by one of the operator at least two operators for the second tote; and

wherein said indicating further comprises providing lights associated with the products and actuating a light to indicate when a product is to be picked,

wherein said indicating further comprises marking each tote with an identifier and displaying said identifier near the product or products to be picked and placed in the identified tote; and

indexing a respective tote of the first and second totes along said conveyors to a second picking bay in a respective row of the first and second rows in a direction parallel to the first and second rows when the indicated product or products have been picked and placed in the respective tote by one of the operator at least two operators wherein the at least two operator operators may continue to pick at another other picking baybays.

- 42. (original) The method according to Claim 41, further comprising indicating a product or products in the second picking bay to be picked by the operator for the respective tote after the respective tote is indexed to the second picking bay; and indicating a product to be picked by an operator at the first picking bay of the respective row for a third tote.
- 43. (original) The method according to Claim 42, further comprising indexing the respective tote and the third tote wherein said respective totes aligns with a discharge side of a third picking bay of the respective row and the third tote aligns with the discharge side of the second picking bay of the respective row when the picking is complete for both the respective tote and the third tote.

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- 44. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 41, wherein said aligning a first tote and said aligning a second tote comprises supporting said first and second totes on said first and second conveyors, respectively, adjacent the discharge sides of said picking bays of said first and second rows of picking bays, respectively, and said indexing includes selectively driving a respective conveyor of said conveyors which supports the respective tote to thereby index the respective tote.
- 45. (original) The method according to Claim 44, wherein said providing products comprises supporting products on flow racks, said products flowing from said induct sides to said discharge sides.

46. (cancelled)

- 47. (currently amended) The method according to Claim [[46]]41, wherein said indicating comprises providing a light at each of said picking locations for each type of product and actuating a respective light of said lights when a product associated with said respective light is to be picked.
- 48. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 44, further comprising providing a group of totes, and said aligning a first tote comprises aligning a first group of totes of said group of totes adjacent the discharge side of the first row of picking bays and said aligning a second tote includes aligning a second group of totes of said group of totes adjacent the discharge side of the second row of picking bays.
- 49. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 41, wherein said indexing a respective tote comprises indexing a respective group of totes after the indicated products or products for each of the totes in the respective group of totes have been picked.
- 50. (original) The method according to Claim 41, wherein said indexing further comprises providing a control system and controlling said indicating with said control system.

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51. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 50, further comprising detecting receiving confirmation when an indicated product has been picked for a given tote with the control system.

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- 52. (currently amended) The method according to Claim 51, wherein said detecting receiving confirmation includes [[a]] providing an actuator and detecting when actuating said actuator has been actuated to confirmdetect when an indicated product has been picked for a given tote.
- 53. (new) A method of picking products in a pick-to-light system, said method comprising: arranging products in a row of adjacent picking locations wherein the products are available for picking;

aligning a group of totes with each of the picking locations;

indicating a product or products to be picked and placed in a tote in the group of totes, wherein said indicating comprises marking each tote with an identifier and displaying said identifier near the product or products to be picked and placed in the identified tote: and

indexing the group of totes from the picking location to another picking location in a direction parallel to the row of adjacent picking locations when the indicated products are picked for each identified tote in the group of totes at the picking location.

- 54. (new) The method according to Claim 53, further comprising confirming that an indicated product has been picked for a given tote, wherein said confirming includes providing an actuator and actuating said actuator to confirm that an indicated product has been picked for a given tote.
- 55. (new) The method according to Claim 53, wherein said aligning a group of totes comprises supporting the group of totes on a conveyor.

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56. (new) The method according to Claim 55, wherein said indexing further comprises automatically driving said conveyor to thereby index the group of totes.

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57. (new) A pick-to-light system comprising:

a plurality of racks supporting groups of products in adjacent picking locations;

a plurality of totes;

a conveyor for supporting a group of said totes adjacent one of said picking locations;

a control system for identifying selected products to be picked for a given tote and receiving confirmation when the selected products are picked for the given tote, wherein each tote is marked with an identifier, wherein said control system includes a display near the product or products to be picked and placed in the identified tote, said display displaying the identifier of the tote into which the product or products are to be placed; and

wherein said control system actuates said conveyor to index said group of totes to another of said picking locations when the selected products have been picked and placed in the identified totes.